

Michigan Department of
Natural Resources



Great Lakes Enforcement Unit –
Invasive Species Interdiction
Efforts



DNR Great Lakes
Enforcement Unit

- Represents the DNR Law Enforcement Division as a member agency of the Asian Carp Task Force.
- Provides training and materials to task force agencies on the identification, detection and interdiction of Asian Carp.
- These efforts have expanded enforcement efforts across the state and at borders.



Task Force Partners

- Conservation Officers work with a network of outside law enforcement agencies, including:
 - International Great Lakes Fishery Law Enforcement Committee
 - Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division
 - Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
 - United States Coast Guard
 - United States Fish and Wildlife Service
 - United States Customs
 - United States Border Patrol
 - Tribal enforcement (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Bay Mills Indian Community)
 - Neighboring Great Lakes states law enforcement agencies



Areas of Education and Training

- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) fish identification
- Minnow identification and associated regulations
- Modes of transportation used in the illegal marketing of live and prohibited species
- Suspected routes/times of movement of live and prohibited species
- 24/7 hour contact information for MDNR Law Enforcement Officers
- In 2011 and 2012 approximately 40 Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division Officers were provided in-depth training on identification and the regulations involving transportation of Invasive Species
- All United States Coast Guard Stations in Michigan were provided training.
- United States Border Patrol, Customs, and United States Fish and Wildlife Service personnel were provided training



Unit Inspection Efforts

- Inspection efforts from 2009 – 2013 have resulted in:
 - 917 inspections of retail and wholesale bait dealer businesses and transport vehicles
 - 570 inspections of state-licensed wholesale fish dealer facilities
 - 1,353 inspections of commercial fishing vessels
 - 46 retail fish market inspections in 2013
- 2013 Bait Initiative Plan Inspections
 - 32 resident minnow wholesalers
 - 61 minnow catchers
 - 177 minnow retail businesses

MICHIGAN ASIAN CARP CASE

- Complaint received of live Grass Carp being sold out of a live fish hauler "Farley's Fish of Arkansas".
- Officers determined next scheduled sales stop was at the Tractor Supply Company in Midland Michigan.



**Consent Agreement
With Farley's
Arkansas Pond
Stockers Inc.**



- Pay \$20,000 in fines by June 1, 2013 and before resuming sales in Michigan.
- Implement compliance program to prevent future sales of prohibited/restricted species.
- Notice to DNR of each future shipment to Michigan, certification that no prohibited/restricted species are included in the shipment.
- Stipulated penalties for any future transport or sale of prohibited/restricted species in Michigan, including a permanent ban from selling in Michigan.


